

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

TOPIC Military Information from the Tangermuende - Jerichow Maneuver Area

EVALUATION _____ PLACE OBTAINED _____ 50X1-HUM

DATE OF CONTENT _____

DATE OBTAINED _____ DATE PREPARED 21 October 1953

REFERENCES _____

PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) _____

REMARKS _____

50X1-HUM

At 3 p.m. on 30 September, 12 x 76.2-mm AA guns, 15 to 20 trucks about 3 radio trucks and about 60 soldiers were entrained in Tangermuende. On the same day, a train consisting of an undetermined number of flatcars with about 20 trucks, several radio trucks about 5 BA-64 armored scout cars about 5 six-wheel machine gun carriers, 1 half-track vehicle, presumably mounting AAA, about 5 trucks with pontoons, 1 small amphibious car, about 5 jeeps about 9 assault boats on trucks and 1 field kitchen and including an undetermined number of boxcars with troops passed through Schoenhausen and proceeded toward Rathenow. On 1 October, a column of about 30 trucks and loaded with ammunition, 1 field kitchen, about 5 tank trucks and 3 radio trucks or workshop trucks were seen in Jerichow, driving toward Schoenhausen. A heavy concentration of troops was determined in the Jerichow-Redekin-Ferchland area. Engineer troops with trucks, pontoons, pneumatic rafts took up position south of Jerichow, between the fork formed by the tracks of the field railway. Tanks and motor vehicles assembled in the area east of Jerichow. were identified. Truck and sedan were also observed in the training area. On 30 September and 1 October, intense flying activity was observed in the maneuver area. Single-engine airplanes in wedge formation of two and jet planes made low-level attacks against assemblies. They were attacked by light AAA. In addition, twin-engine aircraft continuously circled over the Elbe River area.

Comment. The present and previous reports tend to indicate that units of the Third Shock Army, probably of the IX Mtz Rifle Corps, assembled in the area south and southeast of Jerichow where from 27 to 30 September, they conducted exercises, thereby crossing the Elbe River toward an enemy party operating west of the river. Air force units involved presumably included elements of the 9A regiments stationed in Brandenburg and Tiedal. The trains mentioned in the present report to have been observed near Schoenhausen are believed to have carried units of the abovementioned corps which returned to their post after completion of the exercises.

The AAA shipment on 30 September, according to motor vehicle carried AAA units of the Fourth Gds Mezz Army which possibly transferred to Salzkorn on train

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